

Masthead Logo

The Iowa Review

Volume 4
Issue 3 *Summer*

Article 11

1973

The Bird Burial and Athlete's Parade

Michele Hester

Follow this and additional works at: <https://ir.uiowa.edu/iowareview>

Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Hester, Michele. "The Bird Burial and Athlete's Parade." *The Iowa Review* 4.3 (1973): 16-16. Web.
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.1678>

This Contents is brought to you for free and open access by Iowa Research Online. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Iowa Review by an authorized administrator of Iowa Research Online. For more information, please contact lib-ir@uiowa.edu.

THE BIRD BURIAL AND ATHLETE'S PARADE

And I buried him,
his lungs, the tiny bellows
that rotted and stove in.
Under the leaves
the vest of bones lay open.

Now in the park
the racers, the strutters come forward
for their medals.
I give them your wings
cooking in their soup,
the tarted feet and belly feathers
to the runners.
I take the spine
so it might be a beam for my sail,
turning idly tonight.
Let us drift sparrow.